

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 26, 27, 29, 30, and 32-40 are pending. Claims 26, 29, 32 and 34 are independent. Claims 26, 27, 29, 30 and 32-35 and hereby amended. No new matter has been added. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENT IN SPECIFICATION

Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed and specifically at paragraphs [0091]-[0092] and Figs. 2-3 of Applicants' corresponding published application. By way of example and not limitation:

[0091] Further, according to the fourth modified example, as shown in FIG. 2, a removable media 21 such as a floppy disk or the like is connected to the controller 17. This removable media 21 is exchanged between a user A who uses a receiving apparatus 3A and a user B who uses a receiving apparatus 3B.

[0092] **The user A who uses the receiving apparatus 3A stores an address information of a favorite program and the user's client ID to the broadcast station 2 in the removable media 21.** The user A passes the removable media 21, in which the address

information and the client ID are stored, to the user B who uses the receiving apparatus 3B. If the receiving apparatus 3B is provided with, for example, the recording/reproducing medium 15 having a large capacity of terabyte, the program which is introduced by the user A is recorded in this recording/reproducing medium 15 without the user B realizing. **The user B installs the removable media 21, which is passed from the user A, to the receiving apparatus 3B. Then, the user B is capable of reproducing easily the introduced program on the basis of the address information, which is recorded in the receiving apparatus 3B.** In the case of listening and viewing the program, requesting the broadcast station 2 through the modem 19 for the program enables the user B to listen and view the program as the user B is provided with the cipher key. In this time, the broadcast station 2 also receives the client ID of the user A, who introduced the program, from the receiving apparatus 3B. The broadcast station 2 changes the accounting amount of the program together with the user who introduced this program and the user who was introduced the program. In this case, for example, the broadcast station 2 discounts the accounting amount.

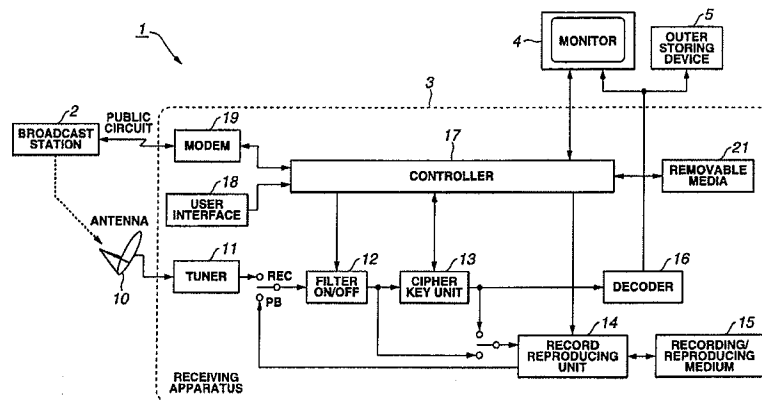


FIG.2

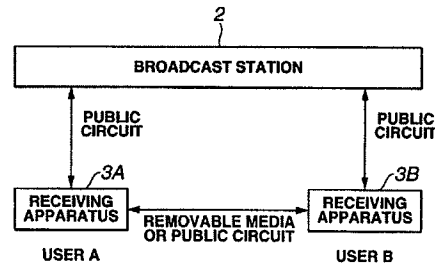


FIG.3

III. RESPONSE TO REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 26, 27, 29, 30, 32-36 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,163,316 to Killian (hereinafter, merely “Killian”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0128685 of Hassell et al. (hereinafter, merely “Hassell”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0223407 of Fullerton et al. (hereinafter, merely “Fullerton”) further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,097,441 to Allport (hereinafter, merely “Allport”) ¹.

Claim 37 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Killian in view of Hassell and Fullerton, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,758,257 to Herz et al. (hereinafter, merely “Herz”).

Claims 39 and 40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Killian in view of Hassell and Fullerton, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,698,020 to Zigmond et al. (hereinafter, merely “Zigmond”).

¹ Applicants note that U.S. Patent No. 6,097,441 to Allport is mentioned in “Response to Arguments”, although it is not listed in “Claim Rejections-35 USC §103”.

Claim 26 has been amended to incorporate features of claim 27 and other features as well.

Specifically, claim 26 recites recites, *inter alia*:

...removable recording medium control means for recording at least one of said selected digital content, and **for storing address information of digital content to the broadcast station, on the removable recording medium...** (Emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, Allport relates generally to systems and methods for using two or more cooperating but physically independent displays for enhanced viewing of data streams on each display, wherein the viewing of a data stream on one display does not interfere with the viewing of a data stream on the other displays.

Applicants submit that neither Killian nor Hassell nor Fullerton nor Allport, taken alone or in combination, would teach or suggest the above-identified features of claim 26. Specifically, none of the references used as a basis for rejection discloses or renders predictable **“removable recording medium control means** for recording at least one of said selected digital content, and **for storing address information of digital content to the broadcast station, on the removable recording medium,”** as recited in claim 26.

Specifically, the Office Action (see page 5, paragraph “With regards to claims 27, 30, 33 and 35...”)) asserts that Hassell further comprises removable recordable medium means configured to store address information, and refers to Hassell, “storing volume name for identifying location of media” in paragraphs [0085]-[0086]. Thus, Hassell, paragraphs [0044], [0085]-[0086] and Fig. 7a are reproduced as follow:

[0044] In response to an indication by the user to digitally record a selection, the programming guide may generate a recording

schedule screen for display on monitor 45. The recording schedule screen lists the programs currently scheduled for recording on digital storage device 49. **An illustrative recording schedule screen 80 is shown in FIG. 7a. Recording schedule screen 80 contains a number of pieces of information which may include, for example, the volume name of the currently loaded medium,** an estimate of the amount of time remaining on the medium, and a grid 81 or other suitable list or table listing the programs currently scheduled for recording and relevant recording information. Grid 81 may include the title of the selections, the channel for recording, the recording date and time, and the duration of the selection.

[0085] If digital storage device 49 is a device that uses removable recording media (e.g., floppy disks or recordable optical discs) the program guide may also allow a user to view a global media library screen which indicates directory information of removable storage media used with the program guide. The user may access this feature by indicating a desire to do so by, for example entering appropriate commands with user interface 46. If user interface 46 is a remote control such as remote control 40 of FIG. 2, this may be done by, for example, using a "library" key. This may also be done by accessing main menu 50 (FIG. 4) and positioning highlight region 56 over global media library option 57 and selecting media library option 57.

[0086] The global media library may be maintained automatically by the program guide. For example, the program guide may store or update directory entry information according to the current viewer preferences (described below) in a central storage area (e.g., random access memory (RAM) or a central hard disk drive) each time directory information is stored or updated on a removable storage medium. **The program-guide may also store unique identifiers identifying the removable storage medium on which programs are stored (e.g., volume names or media numbers).**

FIG. 7a

80

VOLUME NAME: DISC ONE			EST. TIME REMAINING: 50 MIN	
81				
TITLE	CHANNEL	RECORD DATE	RECORD TIME	DURATION
N*A*S*H*	11	5/1/98	8:00PM	30 MIN
TERMINATOR	4	5/2/98	8:00PM	120 MIN
WILD-AFRICA	--18--	--5/3/98--	--7:00PM--	--60 MIN--
83				

82
89

Applicants submit that in Hassell, recording schedule screen 80 contains volume name of the currently loaded medium to identify the removable storage medium on which programs are stored, and as shown in Fig. 7a, "VOLUME NAME" is "DISC ONE". Thus, Hassell's volume name indicates the disc on which programs are stored, rather than address information of the program to the broadcast station. Therefore, Hassell fails to disclose or render predictable **"removable recording medium control means ... for storing address information of digital content to the broadcast station, on the removable recording medium,"** as recited in claim 26.

Furthermore, this deficiency of Hassell is not cured by the supplemental teaching of Killian or Fullerton or Allport.

Therefore, Applicants submit that independent claim 26 is patentable and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

For reasons similar to, or somewhat similar to, those described above with regard to independent claim 26, independent claims 29, 32 and 34 are also patentable, and Applicants thus respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections thereto.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Applicants thereby respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of rejections thereto. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Because Applicants maintain that all claims are allowable for at least the reasons presented hereinabove, in the interests of brevity, this response does not comment on each and every comment made by the Examiner in the Office Action. This should not be taken as acquiescence of the substance of those comments, and Applicants reserve the right to address such comments.

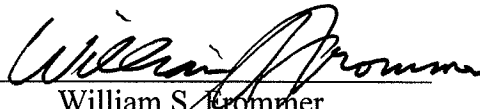
In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, or references, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate those portions of the reference, or references, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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